

## **Recycling and Refuse Management Committee**

### **Minutes from 10/1/09 meeting**

**Present:** Meg Vickery, Chair; Sterling Bush; Greg Keochakian; Marianne Lorenzelli; Lucy McMurrer.

September minutes approved with minor changes.

#### **Updates**

Meg passed around letters of thanks to the Friends of the Jones, Adrie Lester, and the First Baptist Church of Amherst. Meg will send minutes from the meetings to Nancy, Cheryl, and Guilford. Lucy will make changes from meeting minutes and send those minutes to Meg who will then forward them on to the appropriate people.

#### **Styrofoam Ban**

Lucy said that she's sent an email to Joel Bard, the Amherst town attorney, to find out how our by-law looks. Once she hears from him, she'll pass on information to the committee. Sterling mentioned that the Manchester, NH, Dunkin' Donuts uses paper cups. Lucy will follow up on finding out more about this. Greg suggested we ask businesses if they'd voluntarily change from Styrofoam. Perhaps we should find out who owns the Hadley/Amherst Dunkin' Donuts franchises and contact them.

#### **School Composting**

Geoff Friedman, the ARHS math teacher and Environmental Club teacher liaison, and Meg spoke. Custodians at the high school are continuing what they've always done and there's room for action there. He'll speak to his Environmental Club about this. There are large green wheeled toters in the high school. More toters might be needed in classrooms and offices as well. Does Susan Waite know about where to find money (leftover grants)? Sterling suggested this could be a class of 2010 donation. Sterling had other information regarding recycling containers in universities. She mentioned that UVM was one of the top 10 schools for recycling in the country. Perhaps we could contact Amherst Trucking or Duseau since they're in the process of replacing trash barrels around town. Greg suggested calling them about this. Meg will let Lucy know how many the high school needs.

Sterling mentioned that there's a "Rachel Carson Award" or contest at Villanova. UVM is doing composting, as are Mount Holyoke College, and Smith College. Could we do something like this here in Amherst? Should Ricci Mastroianni get a Rachel Carson Award? We need to make sure the Superintendent and School Committee are on board. Do we want to invited Dr. Rodriguez to a meeting? Marks Meadow and Wildwood have institutionalized composting. It's taken care of by the custodians. Training needs to be done for both custodial staff and children at other schools to make it successful. The Crocker Farm custodians aren't on board. Greg suggested we have Ricci come to a meeting and tell us what she needs. Are job descriptions public information? If so, should we find out if school custodians *have* to do this? Could teachers bring out their own recycling/trash into the halls at the end of the day? If they had big toters in the halls? UVM and Villanova do that.

#### **Town Composting/Recycling**

The town trash and recycling is being co-mingled because no recycling is being done. Meg will email Guilford asking about recycling. What is the stumbling block to this? Can we meet with him?

#### **Membership**

Does anyone have any ideas? Lucy suggested either Bob or Sally Fitz. Greg suggested Mike Morris as a member.

**New Business**

Lucy will be finishing her post as committee secretary. Greg will take up the mantle.

Meeting adjourned 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lucy McMurrer